

Spring River/Center Creek Accesses

Carl Junction Access

La Russell Access

Stones Corner Access

Fifteen-Year Area Management Plan FY 2017-2031



Lisa B. Allen

Forestry Division Chief

4-19-17

Date

Spring River/Center Creek Accesses Management Plan Approval Page

PLANNING TEAM

Scott Brown, Conservation Agent

Will Carr, Conservation Agent

Adam Bracken, Conservation Agent

Andy Barnes, Conservation Agent

David Darrow, Wildlife Management Biologist

Jon Skinner, Community Forester

Kara Tvedt, Fisheries Management Biologist

Kevin Badgley, Interpretive Center Manger

Rhonda Rimer, Natural History Biologist

SOUTHWEST REGION

RCT Chair



Signature

4-10-17
Date

FORESTRY DIVISION

Forest Management Chief



Signature

4/19/17
Date

OVERVIEW

Area Name	Area Number	Year Acquired	Acreage	County	Administrative Responsibility	Maintenance Responsibility
Carl Junction Access	7730	1977	3	Jasper	Forestry	Forestry
La Russell Access	6812	1968 ¹	1	Jasper	Forestry	Forestry
Stones Corner Access	7509	1976	9	Jasper	Forestry	Forestry

¹Owned by Missouri Department of Transportation and leased by Missouri Department of Conservation since 1968.

Statements of Purpose:

A. Strategic Direction

These areas are managed to provide public fishing access to Center Creek and Spring River for both boat and bank anglers, while maintaining stream bank integrity.

B. Desired Future Condition

The desired future condition of Carl Junction Access, La Russell Access, and Stones Corner Access are forested landscapes that promote recreation.

C. Federal Aid Statement

- Carl Junction Access: N/A
- La Russell Access: N/A
- Stones Corner Access: This area, or a portion thereof, was acquired with Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration funds to restore and manage sport fish, conserve, and restore sport fish habitat (or a buffer to protect that habitat) and provide public access for sport fishing.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

I. Special Considerations

Area Name	Priority Areas	Natural Areas
Carl Junction Access	Spring River Fisheries Priority Watershed, Center Creek Stream Reach Conservation Opportunity Area	None
La Russell Access	Spring River Fisheries Priority Watershed	None
Stones Corner Access	Spring River Fisheries Priority Watershed, Center Creek Stream Reach Conservation Opportunity Area	None

II. Important Natural Features and Resources

Area Name	Species of Conservation Concern	Caves	Springs
Carl Junction Access	None	None	None
La Russell Access	Yes ¹	None	None
Stones Corner Access	None	None	None

¹Species of conservation concern are known from this area. Area managers should consult the Natural Heritage Database annually and review all management activities with the natural history biologist.

III. Existing Infrastructure

Area Name	Concrete Ramp	Boat Slide	Parking Area #
Carl Junction Access	1	None	1
La Russell Access	None	1	1
Stones Corner Access	1	None	1

IV. Area Restrictions or Limitations

Area Name	Deed Restrictions	Federal Interest	Ease-ments	Cultural Resources	Endangered Species	Boundary Issues
Carl Junction Access	None	Yes ²	None	None known	None observed	None
La Russell Access	Yes ¹	Yes ²	None	None known	None observed	None
Stones Corner Access	None	Yes ³	None	None known	None observed	None

¹Owned by Missouri Department of Transportation

²Federal funds may be used in the management of this land. Fish and wildlife agencies may not allow recreational activities and related facilities that would interfere with the purpose for which the State is managing the land. Other uses may be acceptable and must be assessed in each specific situation.

³Uses of land acquired with federal funds may not interfere with the purpose for which it was acquired. Closures to sport fishing must be based on the recommendations of the state fish and wildlife agency for fish and wildlife management purposes. Federal funds may also be used in the management of this land. Fish and wildlife agencies may not allow recreational activities and related facilities that would interfere with the purpose for which the State is managing the land. Other uses may be acceptable and must be assessed in each specific situation.

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

V. Terrestrial Resource Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Maintain adequate riparian corridors.
- 2) Prevent soil erosion.
- 3) Control invasive species.

Management Objective 1: Maintain riparian corridors that extend at least 50 feet from the stream bank where possible.

Strategy 1: Allow natural vegetative processes to continue. (Forestry)

Strategy 2: Ensure adequate riparian cover is maintained through natural revegetation or planting of native trees if needed. (Forestry)

Strategy 3: Restrict vehicles to parking lots, boat ramps, and boat landings. (Forestry, Protection)

Management Objective 2: Prevent soil erosion from area infrastructure.

Strategy 1: Ensure roads and road-side drainages are managed to reduce runoff, sedimentation, and erosion. (Forestry, Design and Development)

Management Objective 3: Control invasive species.

Strategy 1: Periodically monitor areas for invasive species and use appropriate strategies for management and control. (Forestry)

VI. Aquatic Resource Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Prevent excessive stream bank erosion.
- 2) All three accesses are within Arkansas darter range.
- 3) Control invasive aquatic species.

Management Objective 1: Ensure that area infrastructure does not increase bank erosion.

Strategy 1: Maintain boat ramps and slides to have a low profile on the bank to prevent back eddies and plunging currents. (Design and Development)

Management Objective 2: Maintain or improve the water quality of runoff from these areas.

Strategy 1: Encourage and maintain healthy riparian corridors and stream bank vegetation in non-infrastructure areas through natural vegetative processes and riparian plantings. (Forestry)

Strategy 2: Monitor stream bank erosion along these frontages and address excessive erosion through riparian plantings and riprap streambank reinforcement. (Fisheries, Forestry)

Strategy 3: Implement appropriate watershed best management practices according to *Watershed and Stream Management Guidelines for Lands and Waters Managed by Missouri Department of Conservation* (Missouri Department of Conservation, 2009). (Fisheries, Forestry)

Management Objective 3: Manage the spread of invasive aquatic life.

Strategy 1: Educate users about the hazards and prevention of spreading aquatic invasive species. (Fisheries, Outreach and Education)

VII. Public Use Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Provide boat access along Spring River and Center Creek where possible.
- 2) Keep the public informed of opportunities available at these areas.
- 3) Maintain areas in a desirable condition.

Management Objective 1: Maintain suitable public access at each area.

Strategy 1: Ensure existing infrastructure is maintained. (Design and Development, Forestry)

Management Objective 2: Keep the public informed of opportunities at these areas.

Strategy 1: Maintain signage at the accesses in accordance with Department policy. (Forestry)

Strategy 2: Work with the local Department media specialist to highlight accesses. (Forestry, Outreach and Education, Protection)

Strategy 3: Maintain up-to-date information on Jasper County accesses on Department website. (Forestry, Outreach and Education)

Management Objective 3: Maintain areas in a desirable condition.

Strategy 1: Maintain signage, boundary lines, parking areas, and entry roads. (Forestry)

Strategy 2: Conduct routine patrols. (Protection)

VIII. Administrative Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Evaluate land offered as additions to these areas.

Lands Proposed for Acquisition:

When available, land may be considered for acquisition from willing sellers.

Tracts that improve area access, provide public-use opportunities, contain unique natural communities and/or species of conservation concern, or meet other Department priorities, as identified in the annual Department land acquisition priorities, may be considered.

MANAGEMENT TIMETABLE

All strategies for this management plan are considered ongoing.

APPENDICES

Public Input Summary:

The draft Spring River/Center Creek Accesses Area Management Plan was available for public comment period December 1-31, 2016. The Missouri Department of Conservation received no comments during this time period.

References:

Missouri Department of Conservation. (2009). *Watershed and stream management guidelines for lands and waters managed by Missouri Department of Conservation*. Jefferson City, MO: Missouri Department of Conservation.

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Carl Junction and Stones Corner Accesses Proximity Map

Appendix 2: La Russell Access Proximity Map

Appendix 3: Carl Junction Access Area Background

Appendix 4: Carl Junction Access Area Map

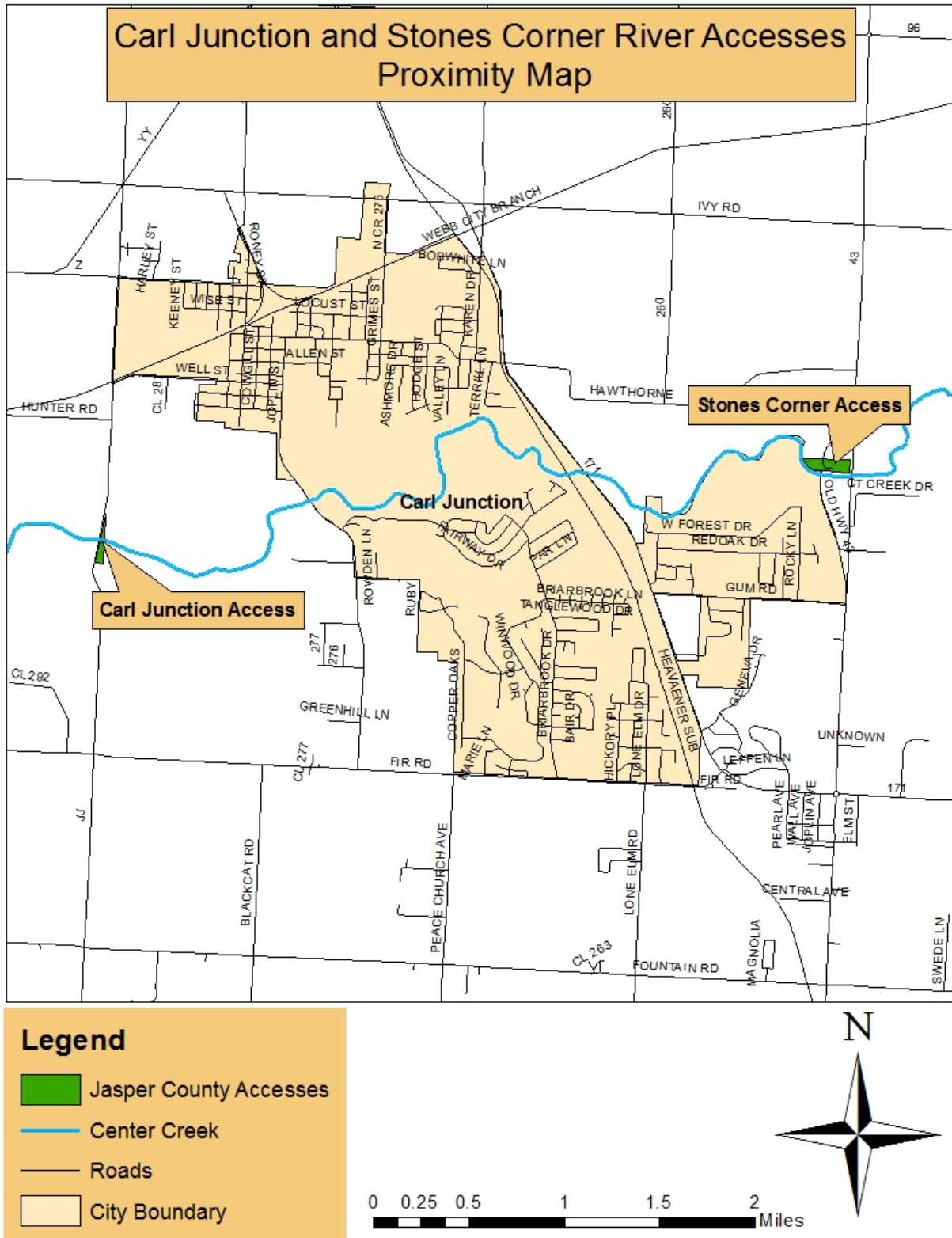
Appendix 5: La Russell Access Area Background

Appendix 6: La Russell Access Area Map

Appendix 7: Stones Corner Access Area Background

Appendix 8: Stones Corner Access Area Map





Appendix 1: Spring River/Center Creek Accesses Proximity Map

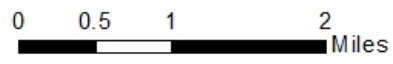


Appendix 2: La Russell Access Proximity Map



Legend

-  Jasper County Accesses
-  Spring River
-  Roads
-  City Boundary



Appendix 3: Carl Junction Access Area Background

The Carl Junction Access is primarily a boat ramp and parking lot. It was purchased from the Carl Junction Special Road District in 1977. The area provides boat and wade anglers with access to Center Creek, which contains game fish throughout the year. The stream is wadeable at normal and low flows.

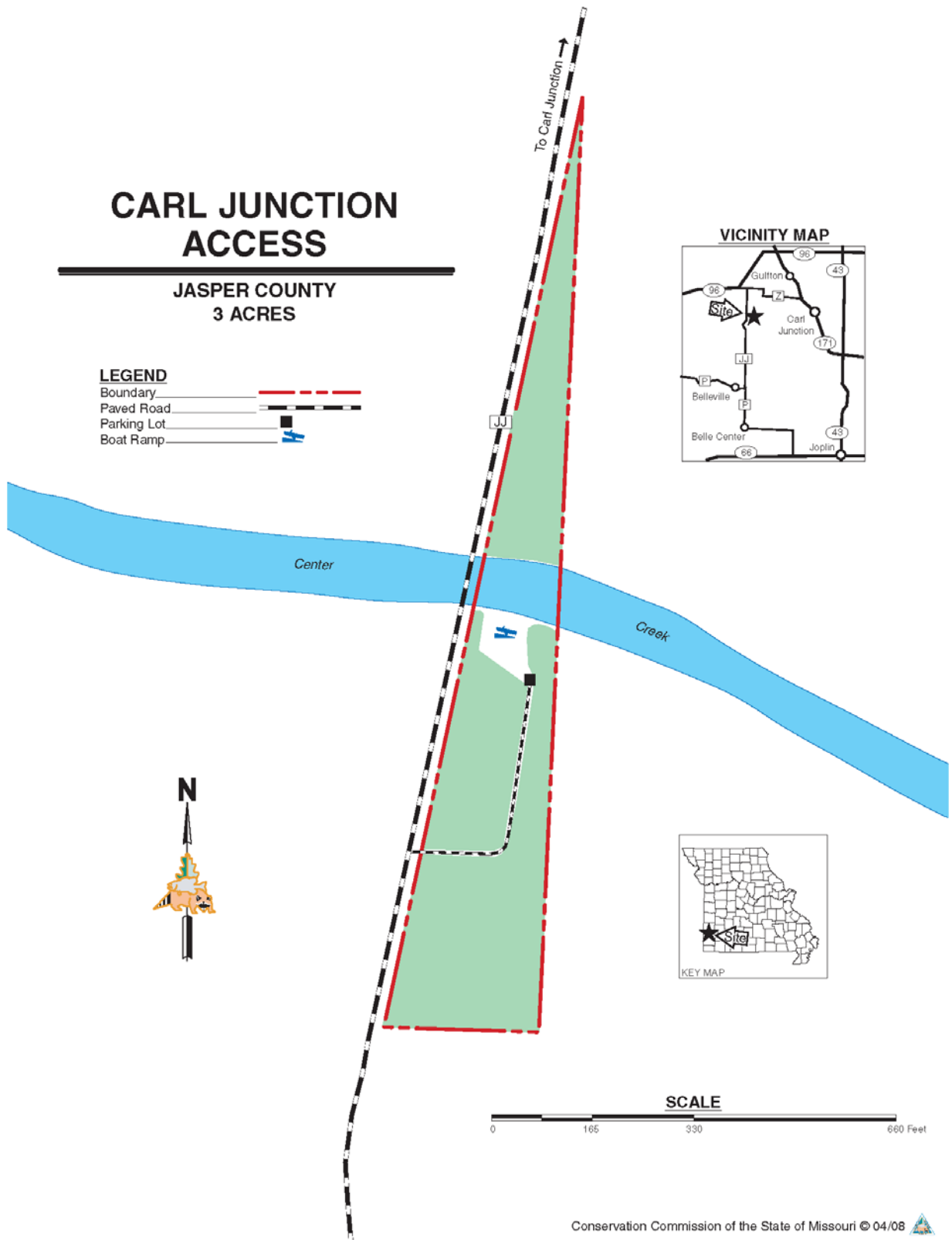
Legal Description: Township 28 North, Range 34 W, Section 12

Area Location: Carl Junction Access is located approximately 2.25 miles south of the intersection of Highway Z and Highway JJ, where JJ crosses Center Creek.

Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Bottomland Forest	3		100
Stream Frontage – Center Creek		0.1	

Appendix 4: Carl Junction Access Area Map



Appendix 5: La Russell Access Area Background

La Russell Access is owned by the Missouri Department of Transportation and maintained by the Missouri Department of Conservation. The area contains a small parking lot and a gravel bar, where launching of small boats and canoes is possible.

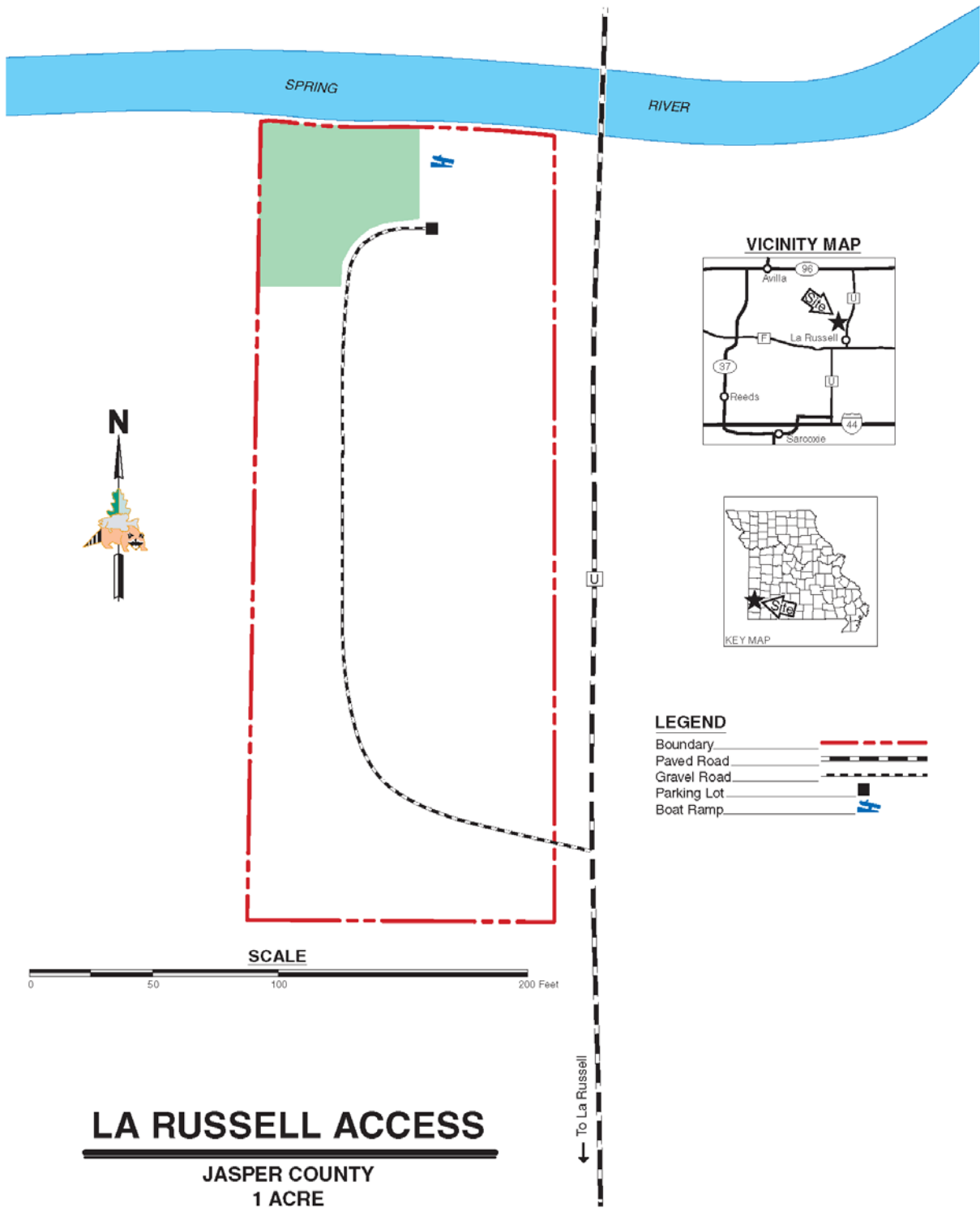
Legal Description: Township 28 North, Range 29 W, Section 11

Area Location: La Russell Access lies on Spring River, 2.9 miles south of the intersection of Highway 96 and Highway U, where Highway U crosses Spring River.

Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Parking Lot and Gravel Boat Ramp	1		100
Stream Frontage – Spring River		0.1	

Appendix 6: La Russell Access Area Map



LA RUSSELL ACCESS
JASPER COUNTY
1 ACRE

Appendix 7: Stones Corner Access Area Background

Stones Corner Access was purchased from Spikes Tool and Die Company, Inc. in 1976. The area provides a parking lot and bank access to Center Creek. The area also has a concrete boat ramp that provides small boat and canoe access to Center Creek.

Legal Description: Township 28 North, Range 33 W, Section 10

Area Location: Stones Corner Access is located on Highway 43, 2 miles north of the intersection of Highway 171 and Highway 43. Turn west onto County Lane 251 and follow to parking lot.

Current Land and Water Types

Land/Water Type	Acres	Miles	% of Area
Bottomland Hardwood Forest	9		100
Stream Frontage – Center Creek		0.5	

Appendix 8: Stones Corner Access Area Map

